

Arabah el Madfunah  
Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 1931

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Dear Mother.

The letter from Eric that you enclosed contained the most amazing news. He going to be married! I expect you will have heard all about it by the time you receive this, so do please supply details. His letter is characteristic I enclose it for you to read. He evidently thinks having tonsils removed is far more important than being married. Isn't that just like Eric! I do hope it will give him something else to think about & make life worthwhile. I must hunt through the bazaars when I go to Cairo to find something really nice for a wedding present.

I have received all four pieces of elastic & my stockings are keeping up as they should. Nannie has enjoyed the L.H.J & the Humorists, she only likes the Observers for shelf covers.

So glad to hear the garage is really on the way. I expect Father is very busy taking

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We have Miss Holey with us now, she is such a nice girl, so eager to help & not make any trouble she has taken some excellent photographs already, of course she finds conditions here a little difficult at first & she does not know very much Arabic, we both have to help her all we can.

I am still working hard at Arabic writing in odd moments, but there is so little spare time

I find it very exciting & interesting, we had a case sent from the station yesterday & were both very proud to be able to make out Baliana written on it.

The little boy who had his leg burnt is better now. I showed him the little moving pictures that I bought in the street in London. he was so interested, & after recognising a man jumping on a ball & a dog wagging his tail, he said to me, "May the Lord make your life long" it sounded so funny from a mite of 4 years old.

The things in the garden are doing

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There is a fine row of sturdy tomatoes with lots of fine green tomatoes forming. & the night scented stocks are coming along. There is a forest of carrot tops & Nannie thins them out every time we have a stew

I am still working on the painting I started when I got here but hope to finish before Christmas, Amice is afraid hers will not be done before the New Year, but it is so very large & she has had to leave it to see to other things

ربنا يطول عمرك يا امي

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